

Claims

- 1 1. An apparatus to teach a subject to vocally emulate sounds comprising:
2 a sensor for detecting the presence of a subject;
3 a system for playing back a predetermined message, where the system initiates playback
4 of said predetermined message upon the detection of the presence of the person or animal by
5 the sensor; and
6 a housing which contains the sensor and the playback initiation system.
- 2 2. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a system for selecting a prerecorded
3 sound to be played.
- 3 3. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a system for recording sounds that are
4 audible to human beings.
- 4 4. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a system for recording sounds that are
5 audible to animals.
- 5 5. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, the sensor comprises:
6 a movement sensing device.
- 6 6. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, the sensor comprises:
7 a light sensing device for detecting the absence of light due to the presence of the bird.

7. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, the sensor comprises:
a laser and a laser detection sensor.
8. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, the sensor for detecting the presence of a bird comprises:
a heat sensing device.
9. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a bird perch.
10. An apparatus as recited in claim 9, wherein the bird perch is detachable.
11. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a mirror.
12. An apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the mirror is contained within the housing.
13. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a means for attaching the apparatus to a birdcage.
14. An apparatus as recited in claim 13 wherein, the means for attaching the apparatus to a birdcage comprises a bracket.
15. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, the apparatus is capable of freely standing.

~~16. An apparatus as recited in claim 9 further comprising a trough.~~

~~17. An apparatus as recited in claim 16 wherein the trough is inserted within the space created by
the bird perch.~~

~~18. A method of teaching a subject to vocalize sounds comprising:~~

~~selecting a prerecorded sound to be played back by a playback system;~~

~~detecting the subject's presence by a sensor; and~~

~~upon the sensor's detection of the subject, the prerecorded sound is played back for the
subject to hear, whereby the subject learns to vocally emulate the desired sound.~~

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